



MICHIGAN CHAPTER

May 6, 2013

To: Representative Nesbitt and members of the
House Energy and Technology Committee

RE: Review of Public Act 286 of 2008

The Michigan Sierra Club Supports PA 286 of 2008 and calls for one change to strengthen the law to protect residential ratepayers and support the growth of clean energy.

The Michigan Legislature should require a Certificate of Necessity for upgrading existing plants, including investments in environmental equipment, and should have the trigger level for review lowered from \$500 million to \$125 million. The reason for this is that ratepayers are required to pay these costs even though shutting down existing plants and replacing them with clean energy options is now often cheaper and reduces pollution produced by the utility. The time to consider the mix of generation sources is before old plants are upgraded, not only when new plants are proposed.

Requiring a Certificate of Necessity for upgrading existing plants would correct this problem, help protect residential ratepayers, use ratepayer money more efficiently, and would ultimately result in pollution prevention and cleaner energy production.

Sincerely,

Anne Woiwode
State Director
Sierra Club Michigan Chapter